



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY'S SWAT TEAM GEARS UP IN THE RAIN

San Diego -- November 29, 2001 - With the rain upon us, the City of San Diego's Storm Water Action Team (SWAT) will be working to reduce and prevent polluted storm water runoff from leaving at construction sites and entering the storm drain system where it can flow untreated to the ocean.

The SWAT Program was implemented in January to redirect City staff during wet weather conditions to inspect construction sites in the City of San Diego. When it rains the City's Resident Engineers (RE) will inspect construction sites to insure that Best Management Practices (BMPs) are being employed by contractors to prevent polluted runoff. In advance of each storm, the REs focus their attention on those sites and projects that have the highest potential for pollutant discharges - sediment, chemical. Their goal is to protect San Diego's creeks, lagoons and beaches.

The SWAT Program is one element of storm water education and pollution prevention the City is putting in place to protect the region's beaches and bays and to achieve its goal of reducing beach postings and closures by 50% over the next four years. The SWAT Program is a joint effort between the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program and the Field Engineering Division of the Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

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